



Littlefield Letters



Vol. 89

MAY 1989

No. 5

MAY MUSTER CALL

date: Thursday
10 May 1989
time: 6:15 p.m.
Mess Call
place: Wyatt's Cafeteria
Hancock Center

Can you afford to spend two hours a month for the Cause your ancestors gave "their last full measure of devotion"? Think about it; it's not much really. And it is not a horrible experience either. It is a chance to take your family out to eat at a fairly inexpensive restaurant. It is a chance to enjoy the fellowship of kindred minds with a like background who, for the most part probably, are friendly folks. It is a chance to support the SCV in our attempt to honor the Confederate soldier and our heritage. Can't you join us? Please do.

This month the program will be "Songs of the Confederacy." Greg Hector will bring his banjo and regale us with well-known and perhaps some obscure songs our ancestors sang. This program is rather informal in nature and is meant to be enjoyable. If you know the songs or just the choruses, you are invited to sing along. See you there.

HERITAGE COMMITTEE NEEDS YOU

Well, it looks as if the letters to the members of the House State Affairs Comm. might have worked. The bill to combine MLK's birthday and Confederate Heroes Day appears to be buried. However, now the Speaker, Gib Lewis, is trying to pry it out of committee for a vote. We need letters again. Phone calls would work, but letters are better. Express your desire to maintain your heritage and urge this bill remain in committee. We don't need further erosion of our heritage.



MUSEUM IN TROUBLE

First some good news. The State Preservation Board has okayed money for the restoration of the Old Land Office Bldg. and its continued use as museums. But they have established conditions which are not too good.

The UDC would have to help pay for a Curator with money they do not now have. The UDC would still own the relics, but would not be able to control them. The Texas Div. HQ would no longer be permitted in the bldg. This includes many SCV records and other records. They want the books, but our sister organization is against that.

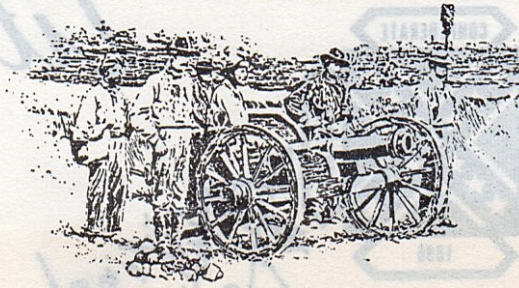
This leaves a few options open. The State could own and control the collection. The items could be stored until a suitable location can be found to house and exhibit it. They could give the collection to another repository under better terms. Or the UDC could find their own building. They favor the fourth option, but face difficulties. A "Friends of the Museum" is to be organized to collect funds to help cover costs of displaying the relics.



CAMP MONEY HELPS

The Camp voted to renew our annual donation to the Confederate Memorial Assoc. in Washington. Even though we send only a small amount, relatively speaking, every little bit helps.

Membership dues in the CMA have enabled them to preserve their artifacts, sponsor lectures, defend the Southern flag, and reopen the CMA library, and to work to save the Confederate embassy, the only shrine to the Confederacy in the nation's capital.



EXECUTION PREVENTED BY GEN. FORREST

By an old Veteran

Confederate Veteran, April, 1909

Twenty prisoners belonging to Forrest incarcerated in Ft. Delaware were ordered to be shot in retaliation for the shooting of some slaves and white men in 1864. Forrest sent in a flag of truce with a message that he would shoot twenty Federals for every one of his men who was executed. The execution was abandoned. O'Neal, one of the prison guards, was accustomed to curse and mistreat the men under his charge. One day he kicked one of our soldiers, John Haywood, who turned and gave him a left-handed lick in the face. O'Neal was only prevented by the relief guard from killing Haywood.

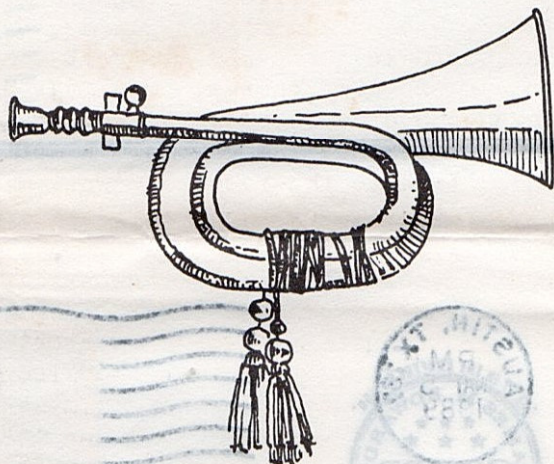
Claibe Freeman, of Brownsville, Tenn., another prisoner, was a particular friend of Haywood's. A mutual friend of theirs died in prison. His wife wrote for news of him, and Freeman and Haywood answered her letter, begging for money to keep them from starving. She sent them thirty dollars, which they divided. They afterwards saw her in Arkansas and paid back this sum.

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MUSEUM FLAGS FIRST RATE

Experts have inspected the flags which the Confederate Museum owns, and the preliminary report is that the collection is mostly in good shape and contains rare flags of great worth. Studies are being made regarding the complete restoration of them. The UDC just received a gift of the flag of the Magnolia Rangers, a Galveston unit.

Many Confederate flags are in private hands and are priced in excess of \$10,000 perflag. This collection is perhaps all the better because it contains mostly Texas flags which is fairly rare. It contains particularly Hood's Texas Rangers' flags which possess much interest and value.



DIVISION CONSTITUTION REVISION

Since no reprint had been made of the Texas Division SCV Constitution and By-Laws for some time, and since it existed as little scraps of paper here and there, it was decided it was time to print a new one. This one should be considered a constitutional revision rather than a reprint as changes have been made. This publication was made available to camps at the Div. Exec. Council Meeting in Hillsboro thereby meeting the publication requirements. This revision will be available for study and discussion during the camp meetings prior to a vote at the convention in June.

CAMP NEWS

First the sad part, only one of our delinquent members has remitted his dues.

Greg Hector and David Morris went to the Stagecoach Inn in Salado on April 29th to help the Maj. Robert M. White Camp #1250 in Temple celebrate its charter night. Many were in attendance including Div. Cdr. Peter Orlebeke.

Members of the camp had fun (?) at Pleasant Hill's 125th Anniversary Re-enactment May 7-9. Camp #59 fielded a complete artillery unit, infantry, and cavalry.

The Battery finally made it to the middle school in New Braunfels on April 14th to demonstrate Confederate Artillery. These school events are good examples of living up to our charge of vindicating the Southern Soldier and promoting the true history of the South.

The Boy Scouts held their annual Scout-a-rama Saturday, April 22nd, and Confederates from Camp #59 were there. We were highly visible presenting artillery demonstrations with the wall tent set up. Thanks to all who participated.

Three years ago the Littlefield Battery won First Place in the rifled cannon division of the National Muzzle-loading Cannon Competition at Ft. Sill, Ok. Well, we are going back again this Memorial Day weekend, May 27-28. At this event we actually fire projectiles at targets. The Student Officer Battalion even arranges for the Museum to be open for us. We need help and support. How about it?

Ever serve on a cannon crew? Ever want to? Due to furloughs, campaign casualties (?), losses to the other services, the Battery is in need of new recruits. If you are interested, contact Cdr. David Morris.



TEXANS
pump it out ...
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COURT DENIES SUIT ON FLAG (AP) Montgomery, Ala.

A federal judge threw out a NAACP suit seeking to remove the Confed. flag atop the Alabama Capitol, ruling the banner did not violate the constitutional rights of Blacks. U.S. Judge Robert Varner said the NAACP failed to show the flying of the flag created a form of segregation.

"Removal of the flag is suggested for the purpose of relieving a feeling...rather than for the purpose of eliminating segregation in state government," said Varner.

HOW SHALL WE HONOR THEM Author Unknown

How shall we honor them, our Deathless Dead?

With strew of laurel and the stately tread?

With blaze of banners brightening overhead?

Nay, not alone these cheaper praises bring:

They will not have this easy honoring

How shall we honor them, our Deathless Dead?

How keep their mighty memories alive?
In him who feels their passion, they survive!

Flatter their souls with deeds, and all is said!

- THE LITTLEFIELD LETTERS -

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SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

Major George Washington Littlefield Camp No 59

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Gregory T. Hector, Editor



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These Compatriots have contributed \$10 or more toward the publication of this newsletter and the continuation of the Cause.

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